

PERSON/UNIT NOTIFIED [REDACTED]

ADVANCE COPY ISSUED/SLOTTED [REDACTED]

ACTION UNIT [REDACTED]

RF. FILE [REDACTED]

VR [REDACTED]

ACTION [REDACTED]

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PAGE 01

IN 884565

TOR: 090949Z APR 76

STAFF

PRECEDENCE

S E C R E T 090925Z APR 76 STAFF

CITE [REDACTED]

TO: DIRECTOR INFO [REDACTED]

RYBAT [REDACTED]

1. IN APPROXIMATELY THREE-QUARTERS OF AN HOUR CONVERSATION

WITH [REDACTED] ON 8 APRIL [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WAS ALSO PRESENT BUT DID NOT PARTICIPATE SUBSTANTIVELY

IN THE CONVERSATION), GENERAL WALTERS EXPLORED [REDACTED] VIEWS ON

VIETNAM. [REDACTED] APPEARED TO BELIEVE THAT FOR THE FORESEEABLE

FUTURE THE AMBITIONS OF THE DEV LEADERSHIP WILL BE LIMITED TO

CONSOLIDATION OF THEIR POLITICAL HOLD OVER THE AREA FORMERLY

IDENTIFIED AS FRENCH INDOCHINA. HE ADMITTED THAT THIS WOULD

CAUSE PARTICULAR PROBLEMS FOR THE VIETNAMESE IN CAMBODIA BECAUSE

OF STRONG CHINESE INFLUENCE THERE. HE ALSO SAID THAT HE WAS

AWARE THAT THE VIETNAMESE HAD GIVEN SOME HELP TO THE THAI

COMMUNIST GUERRILLAS. HE FELT, HOWEVER, THAT THE POLITICAL

BALANCING ACT WHICH THE VIETNAMESE WOULD HAVE TO ACCOMPLISH,

AS BETWEEN THE SOVIETS AND THE CHINESE, WOULD INHIBIT VIETNAMESE

ATTEMPTS TO EXPAND INTO THAILAND EVEN AFTER A PERIOD OF CONSOLI-

DATION LASTING PERHAPS THREE TO FIVE YEARS. WHEN GENERAL WALTERS

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PAGE 02

IN 884565

25X1

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25X1 STATED HIS FIRM CONVICTION THAT THE VIETNAMESE DO HAVE DESIGNS
25X1 ON THAILAND, [REDACTED] SUGGESTED THAT THIS MIGHT BE A TOPIC ON WHICH
FURTHER EXCHANGE BETWEEN [REDACTED] AND THE AGENCY WOULD BE IMPORTANT.
GENERAL WALTERS PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THIS UPON HIS RETURN TO
WASHINGTON AND TO PROVIDE [REDACTED] INFORMATION WHICH
25X1 WOULD TEND TO CLARIFY VIETNAMESE INTENTIONS.

25X1 2. [REDACTED] ALSO ASKED ABOUT THE PROBABLE FUTURE OF
25X1 [REDACTED] AND AGREED THAT [REDACTED] 25X1

COUNTRY COULD PROVE TO BE THE SOURCE OF FURTHER POLITICAL AND
RACIAL DESTABILIZATION.

25X1 3. ON CHINA ITSELF, GENERAL WALTERS EXPRESSED THE VIEW
THAT THE LONGER MAO LIVES THE MORE LIKELY IT IS THAT THIS WILL
STRENGTHEN THE HAND OF THE RADICALS. GENERAL WALTERS ALSO POINTED
OUT THAT THERE ARE MANY STRAINS IN CHINESE SOCIETY AND THAT THE
RECENT POLITICAL STRUGGLES IN CHINA ARE MERELY THE TIP OF THE
ICEBERG WHICH IS COMPRISED OF A NUMBER OF POLITICAL DISSATIS-
FACTIONS. [REDACTED] VIEW WAS THAT MAO'S INCLINATION IS TO PREVENT ANY
SINGLE GROUP IN CHINA, WHETHER RADICAL OR MODERATE, FROM GAINING A
PREDOMINANT POSITION AND THAT MAO MIGHT SUPPORT THE RADICALS OR
THE MODERATES IF HE FELT THAT EITHER WAS IN A POSITION TO DICTATE

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SECRET

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PAGE 03-03

IN 884565

25X1

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25X1

TO THE OTHER, [redacted] AGREED WITH GENERAL WALTERS THAT IF
MAO WERE TO LEAVE THE SCENE ANY TIME SOON SERIOUS POLITICAL
CONFRONTATION MIGHT ENSUE,

25X1

25X1

5. [redacted] STRESSED HIS PLEASURE AT GENERAL WALTERS'
HAVING MADE THIS VISIT, SAYING THAT HE HOPED THAT THIS WAS BUT
THE FIRST OF MANY SUCH MEETINGS. THE ATMOSPHERE WAS HIGHLY
CORDIAL THROUGHOUT THE MEETING. E2, IMPDET.

SECRET